

## QUESTION NO. 4

### Advisory Question

Assembly Bill No. 396 of the 69th Session

### CONDENSATION (ballot question)

Should the Nevada Legislature pass a law to designate the last Friday of October as the legal holiday for observing Nevada Day?

Yes ..... ☐  
No ..... ☐

## EXPLANATION

Since 1939, state law has required that October 31 of each year be a legal state holiday commemorating Nevada's admission into the Union in 1864 as the 36th State. Further, the law specifies that the holiday must be observed on the preceding Friday if the 31st occurs on a Saturday, and on the following Monday when that date falls on a Sunday.

The results of this ballot question are not binding on the members of the Nevada Legislature, but will provide them with an indication of public opinion concerning the observance of Nevada Day. In summary, the proposal calls for the designation of the last Friday in October as the legal holiday honoring Nevada Day, instead of October 31. Subsequent approval of this proposal by the Legislature would result in a three-day weekend for many Nevadans at the end of each October. The proposal further suggests that the annual parade in Carson City to celebrate Nevada Day be held on Saturday following the last Friday in October.

## ARGUMENTS FOR PASSAGE

The Legislature should designate the last Friday of October as Nevada Day to create a 3 day weekend for the celebration of Nevada's statehood. Currently, this legal holiday is observed on various weekdays, depending on which day October 31st falls on the calendar. The proposal would allow more Nevada students, marching bands, civic and historical organizations, and members of the general public to participate in the celebration of Nevada Day in Carson City and elsewhere in the state. It makes sense to observe Nevada Day on the same day of the week each year and allow more people to celebrate this important holiday as part of a 3-day weekend.

**A "Yes" vote would encourage the Legislature to approve a law to change the date of Nevada Day.**

## ARGUMENTS AGAINST PASSAGE

The Legislature should not break with tradition and historical accuracy for the sake of creating another 3-day weekend. Such a change would be similar to changing America's Independence Day to the first Friday in July instead of the 4th of July. Nevadans have celebrated our state's admission into the Union on October 31 for many years, and it would be improper and confusing to change this holiday to another date.

**A "No" vote would discourage the Legislature from passing a law to change the date of Nevada Day.**

## FISCAL NOTE

**Financial Impact - No.** The proposal would encourage the Nevada Legislature to designate the last Friday of October as a legal holiday for observing Nevada Day. Approval of this proposal would have no adverse fiscal effect.